

U.S. Postage Stamp Saving Card
[Horace J. Smith, writer]

November 7, 1889

[An explanation of the proposed card.]

EXPLANATION OF THE PROPOSED

UNITED STATES

POSTAGE-STAMP SAVING, OR REMITTANCE, OR RETURN
(POSTAGE-STAMP REDEMPTION)

POSTAL-CARD.

This specimen of the proposed Postage-Stamp Saving Card is sent with the request that, if you are interested in the subject, you will send your criticisms of it; and also, such further suggestions as may seem to you pertinent.

If you desire to promote the adoption of this plan, you can sign and circulate for signatures the enclosed petition.

While this card (if authorized by Congress) could be used simply as a Saving Card only; it can also be used to remit such savings to a Savings Bank, or to other financial corporations; or it could be used to make small remittances to institutions, firms, or individuals.

It could be used as a Return Postal-Card, by affixing a one-cent postage-stamp on the inside; the message to be written on the blank pages; the postage-stamp would then be redeemed for one cent at any Post-Office, and the card taken up.

It is hoped that, in the near future, such a card may be adopted by the International Postal Union as a method of transmittal of small sums between persons of different nationalities; the postage-stamps of one nation being redeemed by every other nation in the Postal Union. The differences of indebtedness between the nations being settled in the International Postal Clearing House.

Send your communications to

HORACE J. SMITH,
Logan Offices,
1305 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

In the following to Mr. Wanamaker, I submit a suggestion for the passage of a law which, it seems to me, is all that should be attempted at the present moment. The plan suggested certainly moves on the lines of least resistance; it embodies the results of three years' examination of the workings of the Postal Savings-Bank system in Great Britain,—where it has been in successful operation over twenty-five years,—in France, Belgium, Austria, and in Italy. The system has also been adopted in the Netherlands, in Canada, and other British Colonies; and the Postmaster-General of Germany is seeking to introduce it into the Empire:

JOHN WANAMAKER, ESQ.,
Postmaster-General, &c., &c.

DEAR SIR:—

I respectfully suggest the passage of a law providing:

1. For the preparation by the Government of a Postage-Stamp Saving Card, substantially embodying the features of the one herewith handed to you.
2. For the refunding of the face value of undefaced postage-stamps attached to said cards, on presentation at the Post-Offices.

Yours, &c.,

HORACE J. SMITH.

